NEW ENGLAND FARMER.

PUBLISHED BY GEO. C. BARRETT, NO. 52, NORTH MARKET STREET, (AT THE AGRICULTURAL WAREHOUSE.)—T. G. FESSENDEN, EDITOR.

VOL. XII. BOSTON, WEDNESDAY EVENING, MAY 21, 1834. NO. 45.

From the Quarterly Journal of Agriculture, Mechanics and Manufactures.

GROWTH OF FLAX AND MANUFACTURE OF LINEN IN THE UNITED STATES.

SIR—I would not subscribe to the opinion of Dean Swift, that "he who makes two blades of corn, or two spires of grass, grow where one grew before, does more essential service to mankind than the whole race of politicians put together;" but I firmly believe, that he who points out to honest industry a source of individual and national wealth, renders more benefit to mankind than he who astonishes the nation with his eloquence in exciting the flame of party spirit.

In this belief, and with this object in view, I take the liberty to offer you a few remarks on the culture, management, and manufacture, of flax; not, however, with any expectation of effecting so desirable an object as to place that article on the footing to which it is entitled among the productions of our country, and on which footing it is destined to stand at no very distant period, in spite of the caprice of fortuitous circumstances; but merely to suggest a few rude hints, which may call the attention of better talents to the subject, and perhaps serve as a kind of nucleus to a body of better information respecting it.

The older inhabitants of our country remember when cotton, either as an article of agriculture, manufactures, or commerce, was scarcely known in this country; and when, even in Europe, the principal acquaintance with it in a manufactured state was in goods imported from India. At that time, though the price of a pound of cotton was fifty cents, or more, the southern planter could not afford to separate it from the seed even at that price. Linen was then nearly the sole article used for under dress, or for fabrics used as household furniture.

But the ingenuity of two or three men has turned the scale. Mr. Whitney invented a machine to separate the cotton from the seed, and Hargrave and Arkwright machines to spin it; and the labor of producing the finest fabrics, with the additional help of the power loom, is now almost annihilated. In the space of a few years linen is almost expelled from market and from use, and cotton has become the basis of the manufacturing interest, and the main pillar of our exportations.

But this entire revolution in the use of the two articles is in no degree owing to their relative value; but to a remarkable concatenation and succession of accidental circumstances, which, had the order of the causes and circumstances been reversed, would have produced a completely reversed effect.

For many uses, the decided preference due to linen over cotton is abundantly proved by its still being purchased, at a much higher price, by those who can afford it. The money which would have purchased one pound of cotton and paid for spinning it into coarse yarn, before the application of machinery to cotton manufacturing, would now buy eight yards of handsome cotton cloth, finished in a superior style; but the price of flax is the same now as fifty years ago. In the spinning no improvement of much importance has yet been effected; and in weaving, even the common fly shuttle is still but partially introduced. But the reduction in the cost of cotton goods, though more than three hundred per cent., is not the only advantage which cotton has gained over linen; it has improved as much in perfection and beauty as in cheapness.

And yet, I repeat it, the present commanding superiority which cotton has gained over linen, is not owing to its relative intrinsic worth, but to the caprice of adventitious circumstances. Had it been the good fortune of flax to have been the subject of the improvements of which it is susceptible, it would have held at this day, as distinguished a rank in agriculture, commerce, and manufactures, as is now occupied by its more fortunate rival, though it can hardly be reckoned amongst the articles of American production; and what there is is scarcely entitled to the name.

Nothing but total abandonment can now put cotton back to the place it occupied a few short years ago; and nothing but a little ingenuity, sustained by proper enterprise, is wanting to advance the progress of linen, at least in a corresponding ratio.

To effect this object it will be necessary to commence, not only by laying anew the foundation, but by preparing the ground on which to lay it. To make the business of flax-growing successful, a judicious location is of serious importance. Dry, windy, mountainous situations can never compete in the growth of flax with warm alluvial vallies, with rich and sufficiently dry soil, but moist atmosphere. When such a situation is selected and duly prepared, especially by the extermination of every weed, for flax cannot, like hemp, outstrip the weeds in growth—when it is skilfully sown with good seed,—nothing farther, except a good fence, is wanting to insure the agriculturist a good and profitable crop, provided he is met at the proper point by the manufacturer, and a market thereby opened.

But this meeting must take place when the flax is taken from the ground and bound in bundles. If it is intended for fine fabrics, this must be done while the stock is yet green; if for coarse, then the seed will be suffered to ripen, and will be retained by the farmer; but, in either case, the flax from that period must be transferred to the care and management of the manufacturer. No essential improvement can even begin to take place so long as the separating the flax from the stock, or, as it is commonly called, dressing, continues to be the business of the farmer.

The labor of dressing, as it is now performed, is, generally speaking, worth more than the flax when dressed, so that all the expenses previous to that operation are completely lost. Therefore no judicious farmer will spend his time in producing it; and of course, the American market can never afford a regular supply for any extensive operations.

It can never stand in competition with cotton so long as it is spun by hand; and it never can be profitably spun by machinery so long as it continues to be gathered in small parcels from different sources, and consequently of different qualities—dressed and prepared by different hands—some of it long, some short, some coarse, some fine, some clean, some foul, some harsh, some soft. It cannot be spun to any advantage by machinery, so long as the same parcel contains staple of different lengths, because the distance between the front and back roller must be in proportion to the length of the respective fibres; and if the rollers are sufficiently near to suit the short fibres, then the long ones will be held fast at both ends, and if far enough apart for the long fibres, then the short ones will want support: in either case the work cannot go on. If fine flax be mixed with coarse, they cannot be drawn into fine twist, and the fine fibres will not unite with the coarse to form a smooth thread, and of course a waste of stock is occasioned by spinning fine flax into coarse rough twist.

It has been abundantly proved by numerous experiments, that flax of nearly uniform length may be spun by machinery with far more rapidity than cotton; and it is no less evident that it may be drawn to any degree of fineness which the staple will admit of. But still, owing to the above causes, nothing of much importance has yet been effected.

To remove these evils, which prevent any essential improvement in the manufacture of linen, there exists but one remedy. The farmer must obtain and avail himself of due information as to the best method of managing the culture and growth of flax, until, as before stated, it is taken from the ground, properly dried, either in its green state or after being divested of the seed and bound in bundles. In this state it must pass into the hands of the manufacturer. The price may be fixed by the ton or hundred.

The first business of the manufacturer must be to assort it into different parcels, according to the length, texture, and other properties. By this process the qualities of each parcel will be sufficiently uniform, and each may be spun with hitherto unknown rapidity and evenness of thread, and as fine as the fineness of its fibres will admit.

The next process will be that which is commonly termed rotting, or preparing the fibres to separate from the inner stock, which constitutes the shives, and from each other. The quickest and safest, and without doubt the best method of effecting this, now in use among the most skilful producers of flax, is water-rotting. It is not the intention of this article to give any detail of the manipulations in rotting or dressing flax, nor in the subsequent operations of spinning and weaving, but merely to awaken and invite the attention of inventive genius to make improvements, where reason and science declare that improvements can absolutely be made.

To make improvements in the processes of rotting and dressing certainly opens a field for interesting experiments, both to the chemist and mechanic. How far the former can be aided by the application of steam, or by the chemical agency of chlorine acid, or by any other chemical agency, is

a question worthy of serious attention, and not of very difficult solution, especially to one who possesses the requisite science and the means to make the experiments.

The operations of dressing, fining and softening, open a most extensive and interesting field to the inventive and enterprising mechanic. It is this part alone which now retards the progress of improvement. Let ingenuity do for flax in this branch of the business what Mr. Whitney has done for cotton, and the rest of the business is so far accomplished that we shall soon see the linen manufacturing interest at least successfully competing with cotton.

It cannot but be obvious to any man of talents, as a general mechanic, that the simple operation of dressing flax may be expedited to almost any degree required; and that even without the aid of any great complication of machinery. This object may not perhaps be effected at once, but let it once be fairly commenced, and meet with any degree of liberal patronage, and successive improvements will complete the race.

When the flax is dressed, and is entirely clean from shives, the next step in the process will be *fining*. The principles of this operation may be learned from ancient experience, wherever it has been long in practice, particularly in Holland and in Ireland. The fibres of flax seem to be susceptible of longitudinal division, almost to infinity. It would be difficult to reduce a fibre of flax so fine but it may be split in two. But the laborious and tedious process by which this part of the business is now effected, could not fail to suggest to an ingenious mind that it is infinite lengths behind the improved state of the age. The business of softening is nearly connected with the fining, and much in the same state of improvement, or rather in the same want of improvement.

When these processes shall have received and profited by the attention they merit from ingenuity —when flax is grown and delivered to the manufacturer in a clean and thrifty state—when it is duly sorted according to its qualities—when it is dressed clean, fined, and softened, it will then, and not till then, be fit for spinning by machinery, and weaving by the power loom. We may then expect to see flax of superior quality making as respectable an item in the exports of the northern, eastern, and western states, as cotton now makes in those of the southern. We may then clothe ourselves in linen at as cheap a rate as we can now do in cotton, and in finer fabrics than it has ever yet produced.

The first adventurers in the manufacture of linen, on the principles here laid down, will find themselves amply compensated in consequence of the high price which the goods manufactured by hand must necessarily bear; and the farmer will find a new source of profit in taking his load of flax to market and selling it at a fair price, without having to go through the (to him) hateful and unprofitable labor of dressing it. The country will see itself in possession of a new and very valuable article for its use, and the patriot will have the satisfaction to see his country acquire a new and important source of wealth and independence.

SAMUEL BLYDENBURGH.

Lansingburgh, Feb. 11, 1834.

He that follows his recreation instead of his business, shall in a little time have no business to follow.

From the Mechanic's Magazine.

ADVICE ON THE CARE AND MANAGEMENT OF TOOLS.

FROM a new edition of the Cabinet Maker's Guide, we quote the following;—The goodness of saws, chisels, and other edge tools, depends upon the quality of the steel, which should be uniform without, and it is always better to have them tempered too hard than too soft, for use will reduce the temper. If at any time you wish to restore the temper, and to perform the operation yourself, the best method is to melt a sufficient quantity of lead to immerse the cutting part of the tool. Having previously brightened its surface, then plunge it into the melted lead for a few minutes, till it gets sufficiently hot to melt a candle, with which rub its surface, then plunge it in again, and keep it there until the steel assumes a straw color, (but be careful not to let it turn blue,) when that is the case, take it out, rub it again with the tallow, and let it cool; if it should be too soft, wipe the grease off and repeat the process without the tallow, and when sufficiently hot plunge it into cold water, or water and vinegar mixed.—By a proper attention to these directions, and a little practice, every workman will have it in his power to give a proper temper to the tools he may use.—If a saw is too hard, it may be tempered by the same means; if you are near a plumber's shop, you may repeat the process conveniently and without expense, when they are melting a pot of lead. In other cutting tools you must wait till the steel just begins to turn blue, which is a temper that will give it more elasticity and at the same time sufficient hardness.

A CURIOUS HORTICULTURAL ANECDOTE.

WHEN Sir Francis Carew had rebuilt his mansion house at Beddington, in Surrey, he planted the garden with choice fruit trees. There he was visited by Queen Elizabeth;—and Sir Hugh Platt in his Gardens of Eden, tells a curious anecdote relating to one of these visits. "I conclude," says he, "with a conceit of that delicate knight, Sir Francis Carew, who, for the better accomplishment of his royal entertainment of our late Queen Elizabeth, led her Majesty to a cherry tree whose fruit he had of purpose kept back from ripening at least one month after all cherries had taken their farewell of England. This secret he performed by straining a tent, or cover of canvass, over the whole tree, and wetting it now and then with a scoop, as the heat of the weather required; and so by withholding the sunbeams from reflecting upon the berries, they grew both great, and were very long before they had gotten their perfect cherry color; and when he was assured of her Majesty's coming, he removed the tent, and a few sunny days brought them to their maturity.

From the Northern Farmer.

PLANTING POTATOES.

As the season for planting is approaching—and as some of our farmers, as it would seem, are not sufficiently sensible of the loss they sustain, by planting small potatoes, or what to me seems very little better, cutting the eyes from the larger ones, and planting from three to five pieces in a hill, I am induced to enter my protest against this practice, as one that is decidedly prejudicial to the crop, and ought to be abandoned.

I was educated to believe that potatoes of the above description were as good as any for seed; and that a good crop depended not on the *goodness* of the seed, but on the *goodness* of the ground and the manner in which it was prepared. I had practised on this principle to a considerable extent, selecting the smallest potatoes for planting, or cutting the eyes from larger ones, in the manner above stated. The correctness of this practice, however, I was disposed to doubt for some years before I finally abandoned it, which I did immediately after trying what to me appeared a fair experiment on the subject.

Four years since [1830] at the season of planting, the ground for my potatoes (about two acres) was heavily manured, with fresh manure from the barn-yard and stable, and the manure thoroughly ploughed under. Near the middle of the field I planted eight rows—two with small potatoes and pieces having one eye each, cut from larger ones, putting four or five pieces in a hill, according to my former practice—four rows with large potatoes cut directly across in the centre, between the seed end and the stem or butt end, planting two rows with the seed ends and two with the butt ends, and two rows with whole potatoes of the middling size. The ground on which these eight rows were planted was level, and otherwise in all respects equal throughout. At the time of harvest, each pair of rows were dug and measured separately. The difference between the produce, from the two rows planted with small potatoes and pieces and that from the two planted with good sized whole poiatoes, was something more than one-fourth, nearly one third in favor of the latter. This difference was not in the number of potatoes, but in the size; the greatest number being found in the two rows planted with the small potatoes. From this experiment, I was satisfied that to select small potatoes for planting, or to plant large and small ones promiscuously, was an error of no small consequence to the farmer. In the rows from the butt ends, and from the seed ends, the produce was nearly equal in quantity; but the potatoes from the butt ends were largest and most equal in size, while those from the seed-ends were more numerous with greater disparity of size. The product of these last rows, though better than that from the small seed, was nevertheless inferior to that from the rows planted with the large whole potatoes. The result of my experiment clearly proved that though one half of the seed might be saved by cutting large potatoes in two equal parts, yet the difference of product in favor of the whole potatoes rendered them preferable for planting.

I have been considerably engaged, for the last ten, or twelve years, in experimenting upon different kinds of the potato, for the purpose of ascertaining which is the most valuable for keeping late in the spring, taking also into view their productiveness.

I should be highly gratified to have the views of some of your intelligent correspondents, who can speak from experiment on this subject. There is a manifest difference in potatoes in these respects, and it is of importance that farmers should possess the best varieties. MATTHEW BUELL, Jr.

Newport, April 23rd, 1834.

Carrots for Live Stock. The Altringham carrot, grown in rows 18 inches apart, and the carrots at the same distance from each other in the rows, the roots attaining the thickness of a man's thigh, and the length of three feet, with a vigorously growing top, for feeding cows or other cattle.—*London's Magazine.*

ROADS.

HIGHWAY surveyors as they are called in New England, are chosen annually in town meeting—assessments are made upon the inhabitants, and they are called upon to *work* them out. The object of one half of those who thus congregate together, "with pick axe, hoe and barrow" is in reality to *work* out the tax in the easiest way possible, instead of working on the road, and they generally succeed in working the public out of the whole of it. Nothing very permanent is done; a good shower often washes away the work of twenty or thirty men who have most patiently STOOD over their task the whole day, watching the going down of the sun with one eye, and the surveyor with the other. We speak from experience, having worked upon the roads in various capacities. It has been our lot to sojourn and pay taxes in as many as three or four counties in the State.

Within a few years past we have paid over one hundred dollars tax in work upon the roads, and we are fully convinced that twenty dollars in cash judiciously expended by a permanent surveyor, who was possessed of a moderate portion of common sense, would have done more good than the whole amount that we have paid in work.

If towns would raise in cash, say one half only of what they raise in what is called work, and would let the roads out to honest and responsible contractors, they would have roads that it would be a pleasure to travel, and in reality at a much cheaper rate. Somebody would then be under obligations to keep the roads good, and towns would not have to meet so many bills of cost, in paying for the broken heads of unfortunate travellers. Scarcely a court sits in either of our counties but some delinquent town is arraigned for bad roads. Somebody has received damage in consequence of bad roads; and the whole posse comitatus of the law, from crier to Chief Justice is employed to find out who is to blame; a fine and bill of costs is finally saddled upon the town sufficient to make turnpikes of all their roads and keep them in repair for years. One or two towns have adopted the plan of paying their road taxes in money, and have found by actual experience that they have better roads at one-half their former expense.—*Maine Farmer.*

From the Genesee Farmer.

FARMER'S DIARY.

IT may excite a smile, on the part of many of my brother farmers, to be told that they would experience many beneficial results from the practice of making memorandums of every day's transactions; yet I may be able to convince them that such is the fact, and that, however unaccustomed to the use of the pen, there is hardly one of them but what may briefly note in the evening of each day the business which he or his men have transacted. And practice will render it more and more easy.

Surely it would be a satisfaction to every one to know how many days his hands have been engaged in preparing the ground for a crop, how much seed he used, at what time he ploughed, planted, sowed or hoed, and at what time his crop was harvested, and what the product. I should also suppose there would be an advantage in knowing at what time to expect his stock to bring forth their young, that he may afford them the necessary attention.

If he employ men in his hay or harvest field, to be able to ascertain from his diary who were employed each day, or if driven from the field by rain, at what hour, that when settling time shall come, he may know to an hour how long each one has been employed.

By preserving an account how many shocks of wheat, oats or barley, he has deposited in stacks, or in the barn, or how many loads of hay he has secured, he may form some judgment how much of each he may have to sell. By keeping an account how many baskets of corn, or potatoes, he has drawn in, it is easy to estimate, by measuring the basket, how many bushels he has, and of course how his land has produced.

When he thrashes his grain, and cleans it up to know exactly how many bushels his acres have produced; and if he have put them in at different times, different quantities of seed, or have varied in the mode of preparing the ground, to know which has done the best. I say to be able to ascertain all these points by an examination of his diary, must be attended not only with satisfaction but profit.

A farmer has a pair of oxen which he concludes to fat. He notes their value at sixty dollars,—begins to feed—an account is kept of what they consume. He sells them at sixty-five dollars, and ascertains in a few moments whether he is paid for fatting.

I can say from experience, that it does not occupy more than ten minutes to make an entry of the day's business, and that all the benefits I have enumerated, and many more may be realized.

It is the practice of many farmers to *guess* that they have so many bushels of wheat, corn, oats or potatoes per acre, and this *guessing* is oftentimes very wide from the truth. Or if they take the trouble to measure, they forget all about it before a year comes round.

Without preserving such an account, how is it possible for the farmer to ascertain whether he gets paid for his labor; or if he have made experiments to keep an account of the results for his future guidance?

And when noting the business of the day, how easy to add in a few words, the state of the weather, thus: snow with high wind, N. W.

This practice would enable the farmer, when enjoying his fireside in the winter, to review his operations for the past year, and to discover where he might have done better, and of course he would be qualified to pursue his business to more advantage during the coming season.

ONTARIO.

From the Kennebec Farmer.

POSTS.

THERE have been some remarks published in the *Genesee Farmer* upon the subject of setting posts butt-end up, in order to ensure more durability. We were last summer informed by Mr. North of Augusta, that he set several years ago two posts near the river at the landing in Augusta, not far from the Kennebec Hotel. One of the posts was set butt-end up, the other was placed the butt-end down. He states that both were equally sound when placed in the ground, but that the one which was set butt-end up, is now sound and good, and and that the other is decayed.

His mode for accounting for the difference in preservation is the following, viz. that the tubes in the wood through which the sap ascends while growing, are furnished with valves or separations, to prevent the weight of the sap from pressing back. That if the posts be set in the ground with the small end up, the moisture would rise in the same manner that the sap did, and thus hasten a decomposition of the wood, but if set in the other position the valves or partitions would prevent the moisture from rising at all. This theory is plausible, but whether true or not we cannot say, or whether setting a post with the small end downwards will cause it to last longer than otherwise, we cannot say, from any experience that we have yet had ourselves. One method however, is certain, viz. charring as mentioned by Carolus. And we have also found that by heating the whole of the post even if it be not charred it will increase its durability.

There seems to be a sort of low state of vegetable life remaining in wood even after it has been cut for some length of time; and the action of this vitality does seem, in a manner inexplicable to us, to produce decay. The shipwrights in the English navy-yard have become aware of this sort of morbid life, if we may so speak, and they have adopted the plan of soaking their ship timber in a weak solution of corrosive sublimate, in order to destroy this kind of action and preventing what is called the dry rot in timber. We have lately received the February number of the *Mechanic's Magazine* in which we find some remarks on the subject of preventing the decay of timber by saturating it with lime.

From the United States Gazette.

THE LOCUSTS.

A VERY respectable inhabitant who has resided in Germantown during a life of 74 years, mentions the curious fact that locusts not only appear every seventeen years, but that they make their appearance in great numbers always on the 25th of May. Our informant recollects their advent on the 25th of May, 1766, then six years old; he has since recorded their coming on the 25th of May, 1783
25th of May, 1800
25th of May, 1817

Their holes may now be seen in ploughing, or under boards laying on the ground, preparing to come forth on Sunday, 25th inst.

It is remarked that occasionally a few locusts are seen creeping out of their hiding places *before* the 25th, but they return again to join the great crowd.

Some two months since, a highly respected friend, who has resided all of his long and useful life in the vicinity, left for us a notice of the approach of the locusts, and an account of their time and customs.—The piece did not reach our hand until it had appeared elsewhere. It was instructive with reference to this subject, and contained a remark that the locust seasons had usually been characterized as those of plentiful harvests of grain, &c.

ITEMS.

Death to Caterpillars, &c. 'We can affirm from almost daily experience, that strong lime water will kill every kind of caterpillar, and even worms, snails, lizards, frogs, toads, snakes, and fishes.'—*Gardener's Mag.*

Soap Suds sprinkled on trees from a common garden pump is recommended as retaining its efficacy longer than lime water. When applied to trees in the early part of the year it seems to prevent insects from settling upon them.

Steaming has been tried with better effect than smoking to clear ships of vemin.

From the Genesee Farmer.

THE CULTIVATION OF INDIAN CORN.

Although Indian corn is the most important crop with which we occupy our land, it is the very one which receives the poorest management. Not a season passes which does not afford me frequent opportunity for observing the inexcusably negligent manner in which farmers cultivate their corn. They (a majority of them) begin wrong, continue wrong, and as a matter of course, end wrong. In other words they do not plough well, plant well, nor hoe well, and under such circumstances, how can it be expected that they will receive a large crop? It is too often the case that farmers entertain the idea that any person is competent to plough who is large and stout enough to hold on to the handles of a plough; hence the mistaken yet frequent practice of setting boys and stupid careless men to plough a rugged field to receive a crop of corn. There is scarcely a principle in the whole routine of farming operations, more directly opposed to the interests of the farmer, than that it is not necessary to perform this operation in the best manner possible. There is another idea too common among farmers, and which is almost or quite as fatal as the former, viz. that any one who is stout enough to lift a hoe, is qualified to plant corn; and a third notion, which caps the climax of error, is, that if the ground is so managed, as to keep the weeds from actually hiding the corn, it is sufficient. Such mistaken, inconsistent and delusive ideas, are cherished by hundreds and thousands of our farmers. It is this system of slack management, running through their whole plan of operations, which keeps so many farmers poor. *Thorough work* is the best motto for the farmer. Thus much by way of preliminary, and now for my own practice. I do not however, enter upon a detail of my own plan of operations with the idea that it is better than all others, but simply with the honest motive, that there are some who will find hints contained in it which will benefit them.

My first step towards raising a crop of corn is, to remove from my field all obstacles to the plough, by which I am enabled to make, with a certain prospect of success, my second step, viz:

Ploughing—which I perform with a good stout yoke of oxen, and a well shaped cast iron plough. The management of the plough I do not entrust to others, when circumstances will allow of my attending to it myself—for I find that I cannot hire my ploughing done so well as I can do it myself, and in performing the operation, I spare no pains nor time, to do it as well as it can be done. I make it a point to have every *inch* of sod inverted, and if from any circumstance this cannot be done with the plough, I immediately stop my team and do it with my hands. Do not start at this, brother farmer! but remember that it is not possible for you to have your ground too well ploughed for any crop. If you cannot plough but little a day, plough that well, for it is quicker and easier to plough than to hoe.

Rolling.—This I do with a roller six feet long by twenty or twenty-four inches thick, made of solid white oak timber. By going over the ground with a roller as heavy as such a one necessarily must be, in the same direction as that in which it was ploughed, it is put in a fine state of preparation for the next and a very important operation.

Harrowing—which I perform with a heavy four square (as it is commonly called) harrow, containing twenty slender, sharp iron teeth, steel pointed. I make it a rule to harrow until my ground is *very* mellow, without any regard to the length of time which may be required in order to accomplish this object.

Marking out—I do with four chains, fastened with one end on a pole, three feet apart, which pole is supported and drawn by two men (one at each end) across the field in a different direction from that which was last taken by the harrow.

Planting.—Before planting my corn, I wet it with soap, and then roll it in plaster. I obtain the most careful men I can find for assisting me in planting—make it my rule to put my seed on mellow earth, all lumps being kept out of the way, and none being drawn over the seed, which I cover lightly with fine earth.

First hoeing.—As a preparation for this important operation, I enter the field with my cultivator, passing it through the corn twice in a place both ways. This leaves the ground very mellow, and in excellent condition for hoeing. I suffer no weeds to be buried in the hill, but have them all carefully pulled out. If the earth above the plants is baked, I have it displaced, and substitute that which is mellow.

Second hoeing.—It is common among farmers, even those who have a cultivator, (and every farmer should have one,) to use a plough to prepare their ground for a second hoeing. I have done so myself until the last year. I had two fields planted with corn. I prepared one of them for the second hoeing with the plough. When about to enter the other, I thought of trying the cultivator,* doubting however, whether the experiment would be a successful one, for the corn was then two feet or more high. But after some hesitation, I hitched my horse to my cultivator and went at it, and more complete, satisfactory success I could not have wished for. There was less corn broken down than would have been with the plough, and the sod was left entirely unbroken; the ground as mellow as a garden bed. In my second hoeing I leave the ground as level as possible, taking care not to make a hill about the plants, so that their roots may be left to shoot along horizontally near the surface of the earth, and get to themselves the heat of the sun as soon and as direct as possible.

Harvesting.—This I do by cutting up at the root as soon as the corn is glazed; make a bundle containing eight hills, and a stock containing eight bundles, bound very tight around the top with one band.

After planting and before the corn comes out of the ground, I strew over the ground about half a bushel of corn to every three acres, or a bushel to six. The birds will pick up this corn, and not meddle with that which is growing. If the birds are numerous and hungry it may be necessary to sow the field a second time. The year before last I suffered very much from having the birds pull my corn; last year I tried the experiment of sowing corn over my field, and had not a single plant pulled up afterwards. It is cheaper to give the birds a bushel of corn, than to have them pull what would produce 25 or 50 bushels, which they often do, and have done for me. I have found no scarecrow so effectual for the protection of young corn, as to feed the birds with as much as they will eat.

I plaster my corn after the first hoeing.

I came near forgetting one thing, viz: the amount of seed used. Last season I followed Judge Buel's advice, and put into each hill from six to eight kernels. At the first hoeing I sent one person ahead to pull out all the plants but the four healthiest ones in each hill. The consequence was, that throughout my field there was rarely a hill which had not its stout four stalks. I would strongly recommend this plan to others.

And now, Messrs. Editors, I have made out a long story about raising corn. Whether it is worth publishing you may judge.

Respectfully, &c. W. P. W.

Milton, Saratoga Co. Feb. 1, 1834.

* I wish those who have never tried the cultivator for the second hoeing would do so. I have no doubt of their success.

From the Maine Farmer.

CANADA THISTLE.

As the season has now arrived, when most people are commencing breaking up their gardens, I take the liberty to trouble you with a few lines on the subject of the Canada Thistle, and the method I adopted to extinguish them from my garden. Some years since I purchased a piece of land in this town, and erected my dwelling house on the north side of the road, and about four rods distant therefrom, intending to have my garden for my vegetables in front of my house, and between that and my house. But after I had broke up the ground and planted it with potatoes, I found I had selected my garden spot completely in a bed of Thistles. The more the ground was stirred, the more the Thistles increased. I was very loath to be disappointed in improving that same ground as my garden spot. A thought occurred to my mind that by having the ground well dug up and broke to pieces very fine, with a long tyned fork, the roots of the thistles might be extracted from the earth, so as to leave but very few in the ground. Accordingly the next spring, I procured a fork made with four tynes, about ten inches long, and the fork about one foot wide. With this instrument I commenced digging up my garden, and as I dug up the ground, I pulverized the lumps, and left the roots of the thistles on the top of the ground, where in a very short time, they began to wilt, and I had no further trouble with them.—Thus by this mode of process yearly, I have entirely eradicated them from my garden.

North Dixmont.

North Dixmont, April 23, 1834.

INJURY TO FRUIT TREES FROM MICE.

While on this subject I will say, I have lost many valuable trees, both in my nursery and young orchards, say one thousand, by the noted severe winter; and, this is not all: I have suffered the loss of hundreds by the depredations of mice. I have ploughed my ground partly with the view to ward off this evil; but they have lodged under the furrow, and have occasionally walked into my nursery, and destroyed many of my trees the past winter. My loss within a few years at least is $500. This way of losing property is very aggravating. It seems to be too much to bear with, from such a race of insignificant beings, without hope of remedy. Can there be no means devised to conquer and destroy this mischievous race, within the limits of reasonable expense? Our nation suffers the loss of millions of dollars annually, by these enemies; and yet there seems to be no inquiry as to any means of destroying them.—*Northern Farmer.*

LOCUSTS.

It appears that the seventeen-year Locusts *(Vicadæ septemdecim)* are to pay their periodical visit this year. It has been ascertained that the insect appears, periodically, once in seventeen years, and in the spring of the year. They were observed in this country at the stated intervals from 1749 to 1817. Apprehensions are expressed that they will commit great ravages, and it is asserted that more than once, when they visited some parts of New England, they not only ate up all the grass in the fields, but actually attacked *clothing* and *fences* to appease their insatiable hunger. But the Encyclopædia Americana informs us that they are in no way injurious to vegetation, except from the damage done by the female in depositing her eggs—while the insect is itself the favorite food of various animals, and in this way may be turned to good account. Hogs devour them eagerly, and some of the larger birds are fond of them. The Indians consider them a delicate food when fried. In New Jersey they have been converted into *soap*.

In various parts of the world, from time immemorial, these insects have been used as food for human beings. For this purpose, in some countries, they are caught in nets, and when a sufficient number is procured, they are roasted over a slow fire, in an earthen vessel, till the wings and legs drop from them; when thus prepared they are said to taste like craw-fish. The locust constituted a common food among the Jews, and Moses (Levit. xi, v. 22,) has specified the different kinds which they were permitted to eat.

It has been disputed, however, whether the food of John the Baptist, in the wilderness, was the insect locust, or a fruit of the same name.—*N. Y. Farmer.*

From the Northern Farmer.

GRAFTING.

The usual mode is to cut off the stock, limb, or whatever is to be grafted, pare the stump, split it, and prepare a scion by forming the butt of it wedging, to suit the split, having care that the part that sets in the rind of the stump is thickest. I will notice a misconception here. The idea is, that the two barks take first; nay, that the bark is all that unites; that as long as the two barks fail to unite, the scion must fail to start. This is not a fact: it is the circulation of the sap in the wood that supports the scion, while there is little or none in the bark. Try the experiment on any tree: by beating off its bark you can start no sap. Cut a little into the wood, and the sap will immediately flow: hence it is, the grains of both woods being equally open, that the flow of the sap in the stump passes into the scion, and the air being kept out, that the scion is supported. Thus it is necessary that the scion be taken down equally on both edges, so as to come in complete contact with the stump. It may be observed, that the two barks never unite until the scion is swollen, and often full leaved. The bark inevitably shrinks and dies at the wound on the outside, and grows anew before they can unite. The idea that the wood does not unite is erroneous. I have examined them, and have found that both the wood of the scion and the inoculated bud early and closely unite. Thus it is necessary that the two woods lie placed fairly together in both cases. I have a new method, to me, of grafting; that is, to take away the earth from around the stock, make an incision near the root, with a sharp knife, downward, inclining a little in, so that the lower part will be a little within the bark. I take a scion, and slope it from one to one and a half inches, wholly on one side, bringing it perfectly to a point, having care not to start the bark. I then take a little of the outside bark from the back side of the lower end of the scion, leaving it a little wedging at the extreme point. In this form I thrust my scion fairly to the bottom of the incision, and then bring it snug to the stock, binding it with coarse strong yarn. I then replace the earth, covering the whole a few inches, with nothing more applied, leaving the scion out in proportion to the length you may choose to have it. As this was an experiment with me, I varied much in the length of the scion, and found no detriment from either extreme. In this experiment I was successful beyond my expectations: for it seemed to be a blind work. I think I set forty or fifty scions in this manner, and I do not recollect of any one failing or faltering in the least. The old stock should be cut away as soon as the scion is well united and growing. I put frequently two to a tree, and cut away some of the inferior ones. These grafts continue to thrive as well as any set in any other manner, and all the reason I can give for not practising this mode is its being more slow. It is a sure and a simple way of grafting, and may be recommended especially to those who are timid about cutting off a tree to graft, having a distrust of their ability in the art of grafting; or to those who have but a few trees and do not value a little pains. This mode is applicable to other fruit, as well as apple trees. I recollect I have a thrifty plum tree grafted in this manner, in a wild red cherry stock of three years' growth. I will observe that the yarn bound round for the benefit of the scion needs no loosening, it rots sufficiently fast. All the advantages and disadvantages taken into view, I think this mode can be recommended, for grafting at the ground, above any I am acquainted with. Abednego Robinson.

SECURING A CROP OF FRUIT ON PEAR TREES.

Take a pair of scissors (such as are used in thinning grapes), and go over the corymbs of flowers, or rather of flower-buds, as soon as they are sufficiently elongated to allow the points of the scissors to pass between them (that is, some days before the blossoms are expanded), and thin them; leaving only five or six blossoms in each, according to the size of the corymb; always preferring to leave the flowers which have the stoutest stalks, and those which are nearest the centre. This operation has the effect of diverting the sap to the flowers which remain, and gives them sufficient strength to set from one to three fruits in each umbel; which will prove a sufficient crop, and well repay the labor bestowed. Another mode, less tedious than the above, is also practised here, with success, on young trees. It consists in deferring that part of the pruning of them which is termed shortening the young wood, until the blossoms are in about the same state as is described in the above directions for thinning, and then shortening them back to the required length. This also checks the progress of the sap, and enables the tree to set fruit very freely. I am aware that my plan is a tedious one, and one that is almost impracticable on a large scale; but it is decidedly an excellent plan for dwarf trees in gardens, whether they are cultivated in the *quenouille* mode, against walls, or as espaliers; as these trees come within the reach of the hand, of a pair of steps, or of a ladder.

In the hope that these remarks may, through your indulgence, avail my fellow-laborers in horticulture, at the coming season, I am, sir, yours, &c.

Bernard Saunders.

Nursery, Island of Jersey, Dec. 6, 1833.

We recommend the above article to the particular attention of young gardeners. The system of disbudding advised in the preceding paper by Mr. Callow, and that of thinning out blossoms suggested in the above paper by Mr. Saunders, are applicable to all fruit trees, and, if generally adopted, would insure important results. We know an instance of a large apple orchard, the property of a commercial gardener in Kent, in which a knife has never been used: every thing is effected by disbudding, and pinching out young wood with the finger and thumb. The proprietor is not a scientific gardener; and he adopted the above practice from no particular theory, but simply from his own observation and experience, to save labor, and to insure good crops of large fruit. We hope to see his orchard next summer, and to report on it.—*Loudon's Magazine.*

TRANSPLANTING RUTA BAGA.

Mead Atwater, of Brighton, has called at the office, and communicated to us verbally, his success in cultivating the Ruta-baga the past season.

Mr. Atwater informs us that he sowed the seed about the middle of June, on seed beds, and when the plants were a suitable size, transplanted them out at suitable distances. The plants were afterwards hoed and kept clear from weeds. At the proper season for harvesting he went over the ground with a sharp garden hoe, and struck off the tops which he afterwards gathered up with a rake. He then with a dull hoe pulled the turnips out of the ground. The produce he thought was at least one thousand bushels per acre, and the quality as fine or finer than those which had been allowed to stand where they were sowed.

Mr. Atwater expressed himself in favor of transplanting, instead of sowing the seed where they were to grow, for the following reasons: that it saved once hoeing, which he thought more labor than to transplant them. That the ground might be ploughed at the time of setting, and would continue in better condition for maturing the crop than when ploughed earlier in the season.—*Goodsell's Farmer.*

POULTRY IN PARIS.

The annual consumption of poultry and small game in Paris usually amounts to ten millions of kilogrammes (near twenty-two millions of English pounds.)

Of this quantity one-third is of prime quality, and sells at 1 fr. 40 cent. per kil.; one-third of second quality, at 1 fr. 20 cent. per kil.; and one-third of common quality, at 1 fr. per kil.; averaging 1 fr. 20 cent. per kil., (or about 5½d. per lb. English,) which is also the average price of butcher meat.

After the revolution of July, when the large game of the royal forests was destroyed, it was with difficulty that it could be sold in Paris at 40 centimes per kilogramme (2d. per lb.)

It is calculated that the inhabitants of Paris consume annually at the rate of between twelve and thirteen kilogrammes of poultry per head.—*Quarterly Journal.*

NEW ENGLAND FARMER.

BOSTON, WEDNESDAY EVENING, MAY 21, 1834.

FARMER'S WORK.

PIGS IN CLOVER. Judge Peters of Pennsylvania observed "In summer my hogs chiefly run on clover. Swine feeding on clover in the fields will thrive wonderfully, when those (confined or not) fed on cut clover will fall away." Dr. Deane, likewise, remarked "Green clover is known to be good feeding for swine. To prepare a pasture for them let the ground be broken up, tilled and manured, and then laid down to clover. For swine are more fond of this grass than of any other which our country produces. Let the quantity of land be so proportioned to the number of swine that they may keep the grass from running up to seed. This will prevent waste, and the shorter the grass is the sweeter it will be, and the more tender and agreeable to their palates.

"I suppose that one acre of rich land in clover will support twenty or more swine, large and small together, through the summer; and bring them well forward in their growth, but they should have rings on their noses to prevent their rooting out the clover.

"It should be remembered that the pasturing land with swine will enrich it more than pasturing with other beasts, and hereby the profit of the farmer will be increased. And if a common clover lay will produce a good crop of wheat, much more may be expected from the same ground after pasturing swine upon it; as their manure adds much to the fertility of the soil."

If in May, or any other part of the season, the grass of a hog pasture should not be quite sufficient to support the hogs, some potatoes or other food may be added. The fence about the pasture had better be so tight that the hogs will not need yoking, because yokes impede their growth. But the hogs should be well ringed; or it is said by English writers, that shaving off the gristle from the noses of young pigs with a sharp knife will answer the purpose of preventing them from rooting, and injure them less than ringing.

It will be a great advantage to a hog pasture to have plenty of water in it through the summer. Running water is best, as it will afford them the most wholesome drink, and at the same time serve as well as any other for them to wallow in; and it keeps them clean, which is no small advantage.

But the most dirty puddle water is better than none, as they can cool themselves in it in hot weather, which is greatly refreshing to them, and conducive to keeping them in health.

Dr. Deane observed "When it can with convenience be so ordered it is an excellent piece of husbandry to make a hog pasture of an orchard. Their dung is allowed to be the very best manure for trees. They will keep the ground light and loose; destroy insects that infest the trees; and feed heartily on the premature apples that fall, which the farmer is too often tempted to grind up for cider. And the shadow of the trees will be very grateful and comfortable to them in summer. An orchard may be prepared with clover as well as any other spot of ground. But it should be remembered that when the trees in an orchard are young and small, swine should not be permitted to go among them: For there will be danger of their wounding them and stripping off some of the bark."

Apples are an excellent food for swine. They are good raw, but better if boiled and mixed with meal. A writer for the Brattleboro' Reporter observes, "I have tested by ten years' experience the value of apples as food for animals. I keep five or six hogs in my orchard on nothing but apples and a little swill; and have uniformly found them to grow and gain flesh faster than hogs fed upon any thing else but grain. On the first of November they are very decent pork; after which I feed them about six weeks on grain before I kill them; and I believe I have as fat hogs and as good pork as my neighbors, who give their hogs double the quantity of grain that I do to mine."

CULTIVATED DANDELION.

WE doubt whether any vegetable is more improved by culture than the Common Dandelion, *Leontodon Taraxacum*. We believe that Gen. H. A. S. DEARBORN is the first person who in this country attempted to raise this vegetable in a garden, by planting it in rows, and subjecting it to the same treatment which is afforded to hoed crops. Notice of his experiment, and its successful result, was published in the *New England Farmer*, vol. vi, p. 337, May 16, 1828.

Since that period we have heard of several persons having been successful in the garden-culture of the Dandelion. But we believe that the following may be considered as the *cap sheaf* of all experiments in attempting to domesticate this valuable vegetable. Mr. G. Pierce of Charlestown raised this spring a dandelion which measured 6 feet in circumference and weighed 4 lbs. 3 oz. The whole mass of foliage sprang from a single root, and had been only twenty days in growing! It was exhibited at No. 27, North Market street, to a great many admiring spectators, and we were among the number. The leaves were small and tender, but innumerable, and matted together like the fibres of wool in a carpet. The dandelion is not only a palatable pot herb, but may be blanched like celery and make an excellent salad, and is esteemed very wholesome, if eaten in any way.

MASS. HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY.

EXHIBITION OF VEGETABLES, FRUITS AND FLOWERS.

Saturday, May 17, 1834.

The following Letter was received and read.

Lansingburgh, 18th April, 1834.

DEAR SIR—I send to your care for an experiment by your society's gardener at Mount Auburn, a newly discovered vegetable, called the Oxalis Crenata, a rival to the potato, which has lately been imported from Chili, and cultivated with great success in Suffolk (England.) The flavor of the root is said to be decidedly superior to that of the common potato, and it is equally prolific.

I remain, very respectfully yours,

ALEXANDER WALSH.

Hon. H. A. S. Dearborn,
Pres. Mass. Hort. Soc.

Likewise the following letter was received, together with the fruit referred to.

To the Chairman of the Committee of Fruits:

The accompanying two Apples are from the garden attached to the Mansion House of the late Governor Langdon of Portsmouth, N. H. The estate is now owned and occupied by Joseph Wilson, Esq. who sent me the fruit: he calls it the Governor apple. I think it would be called a good fruit at any season of the year; but at the present time when almost all other kinds are gone, it will be allowed by all to be very valuable. If this variety of apple proves to be rare, and any members of the society should wish for scions at the proper season, I have no doubt that Mr. Wilson would give them with pleasure.

Yours respectfully, JOHN C. LEE.

Salem, May 17, 1834.

Flat Pippins from Maryland, received from John Prince, Esq. of Jamaica Plains.

Scions of various kinds of Plums from R. Manning.

A fine specimen of Asparagus from Samuel Pond.

For the Committee on Fruits,

CHS. M. HOVEY.

The asparagus was presented to us, The Editor, by Mr. Pond. The shoots were many of them an inch in diameter, and all as large and as fair as any we ever beheld in the best of seasons. Mr. Pond deserves and will please to accept our best acknowledgments.

Thomas Mason, Charlestown Vineyard, splendid variety of Anemonies and Tulips.

By order of the Committee,

JONA. WINSHIP, Chairman.

ITEMS OF INTELLIGENCE.

Terrible Hurricane. The Petersburg (Va.) Intelligencer, of the 8th inst. gives an account of a dreadful tornado which passed near that place on Monday the 6th inst. It varied in width from two hundred yards to half a mile, and its ravages extended at least seventy miles. Every thing within its range was laid prostrate, including dwelling-houses, out-houses, trees, fences, &c. A considerable number of lives were lost by the blowing down of buildings, and property to a very large amount has consequently been destroyed. On several plantations the buildings were blown entirely from their foundations, and their contents carried to a great distance.

The Weather, has been uncommonly cold as indicated by some paragraphs below. A letter from the Postmaster at Greenwich, Mass. to the Editor of the Boston Transcript, informs that on the 6th inst. the thermometer stood at 26½ degrees.

We understand that snow fell in the western part of this County to the depth of a foot on Sunday night. We have seen several persons who declare it was "over shoes" when they left home.—*Greenfield Mercury.*

A brilliant meteor was seen last night in the southern part of the heavens about eight o'clock, at a greater altitude than is usual with such phenomena. It rose gradually, and emitted a pale flame not unlike that of an artificial blue light, and its shape was rather that of an armorial lozenge, or a diamond, than round: it was visible for several seconds, and then disappeared when nearly at its greatest elevation.—*Quebec Mercury.*

There are now nineteen steamboats plying to and from this harbor, viz. Great Britain, St. George, United Kingdom, William IV, Cobourg, Sir James Kempt, Britannia, Kingston, Rideau, Thomas M'Kay, Toronto, Margaret and Enterprise—British boats: and United States, Oswego, William Avery, Carrol, Black Hawk and Caroline—American boats. For purposes of pleasure or commerce, a person may scarcely want an opportunity of employing a steamboat at any hour of the day.—*Kingston Chronicle.*

Ice, eighth of an inch thick, formed last night (May 13) in this neighborhood.—*Newburyport Herald.*

The Season. Fears are entertained that fruit trees will be seriously injured by the late frosts. We have had March weather for the last six days—on Wednesday night snow fell, which at sunrise had the appear- of a heavy hoar frost.—*Concord N. H. Galaxy of 17th inst.*

The Journal of Commerce speaks of new potatoes weighing three ounces each, and icicles eight inches long at ten o'clock in the morning.—*Transcript.*

A novel agricultural feat was performed in Rhode Island, a few days since. It was a ploughing match on a trial of skill in the use of the plough, among fifteen competitors. The projectors engaged fifteen ploughs with teams, to plough fifteen acres of green sward, paying each a fair compensation, and offering a premium for the best performance, according to certain specified rules. A Committee was appointed to superintend the performance, and examine the work. The trial employed sixty head of cattle, and was completed in from six to eight hours. It must have been a pleasant and exhilirating spectacle. Of such sports we have too few in this country.

Curious Phenomenon. The Montreal Herald of the 28th ult. states that—

On Saturday morning, a very singular phenomenon was observable from the river bank in front of our city. Those who were blessed with a very strong sight perceived as they supposed, an immense number of small birds in the air, but at such a height as to render even birds in that situation a curiosity. We happened to be passing and in vain strained our eyes to discover the objects which others were contemplating with so much eagerness—by the help of a glass, however, we at last perceived what was to all appearance an immense flock of small birds. These objects passed away in millions before the light wind then blowing, but many descended lower than the rest, until easily discernible by the naked eye. At length they approached the earth, and proved to be maple leaves of an unusually large size. Many of them were picked up by the citizens, and we have kept one. Whence they came, or how they got there are questions which furnish a wide field for conjecture. One shrewd fellow observed "that this must be the fall of the year in the moon, and that they certainly came from thence."

A Generous Act. The Hon. Mr. GRENNEL of Massachusetts, in crossing the bridge over the basin, near the Centre Market House on Sunday last, learned from some boys that a negro lad had fallen into the basin, and sunk, some minutes before. Finding any other means of recovering the body hopeless, he threw of his coat and plunged into the water, (about 8 feet deep) and after going down once or twice ineffectually, at last found the body, and conveyed it to the wharf, to all appearances dead. After a short time however, he had the happiness to perceive that his efforts, and the risk he incurred, had not been in vain. The lad gradually recovered.—*Nat. Intelligencer.*

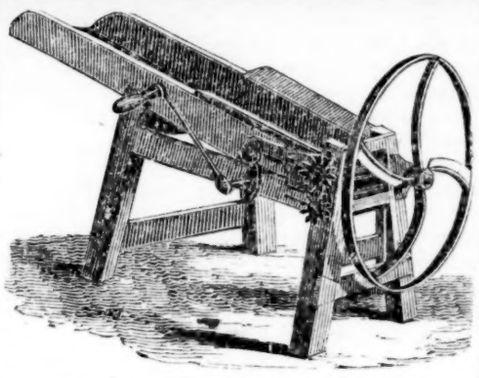
BOX PLANTS.

From Seven Hundred to One Thousand Yards of Prime BOX in good order for Planting. To be taken up at any time when ordered. Orders may be left with GEO. C. BARRETT, New England Farmer Office, or apply to THOMAS MASON, Charlestown Vineyard. It may be had on fair terms by the Yard or Hundred. m 7

ZINC WARE.

Just received, a further supply of Zinc Milk Pans, Kettles and deep Bake Pans, and for sale at the Agricultural Ware-House, No. 51 and 52 North Market Street.

The manufacturers of this article having closed their works, no more of them can be procured at present,—and as the season is at hand when these are most wanted, and as they are found on trial to produce a great increase of Milk, they are highly recommended to the public as one of the improvements of the day. my 14



WILLIS'S IMPROVED STRAW AND HAY CUTTER.

For sale at the Agricultural Warehouse 51 and 52 North Market street. The straw or hay cutter is a machine well worth the attention of every farmer, and should be in common use with every farmer feeding stock.

From the great improvement and simplicity of these machines of Willis's, the work is done with great ease and despatch, and requires but one person to operate it, which is not the case with any other machine, every farmer who is disposed to use his fodder to the best advantage and preserve his animals in the best health will in all cases cut their fodder. my21

VALUABLE NEW WORK ON AGRICULTURE.

This day Published, by GEO. C. BARRETT, at the Office of the N. E. Farmer,—The

COMPLETE FARMER and RURAL ECONOMIST,

By THOS. G. FESSENDEN, Esq.

Containing a compendious epitome of the most important branches of Agriculture and Rural Economy, and the following subjects arranged in order:

Soils,	Wheat,	Beans,	Mangel Wurtzel,
Grasses,	Rye,	Swine,	Ruta Baga,
Grain,	Oats,	Lime & Gypsum,	Potatoes,
Neat Cattle,	Barley,	Fences,	Haymaking,
Barns,	Millet,	Hedges,	Ploughing,
Dairy,	Hops,	Sheep,	Poultry,
Hemp,	Peas,	Horses,	Wood:
Flax,			

and to which is added—Descriptions of the most approved Implements and Machines, *with Engravings.*

The work is printed on the best of paper, and is intended for a Farmer's Directory, which every farmer should be possessed of; and relying upon an extensive sale will be afforded at the low price of $1. m 21

FULL BLOOD SHORT HORN HEIFER CALVES FOR SALE.

Four full blood Short Horn Calves for sale from Imported Stock, sire and dams, if application is made in one week to the Publisher of the New England Farmer, he will furnish particulars as to prices, ages, &c. may 14

WILLIAM PRINCE & SONS, FLUSHING,

—Offer the following rare DAHLIAS, which will be delivered in pots if desired, and 25 per cent. discount allowed where a dozen or more are taken.—Levick's Incomparable, scarlet petals tipped with white, $2. Levick's Commander-in-chief, black and scarlet, $2. Prince George of Cumberland, dark superb, $2. Hanoverian Striped, purple and white, $2. Lady Sefton, spotted lilac, $1 50. Marshallii, pale lilac with purple spots, $2. Queen of Belgium, white tipped with purple and very large, $2. Agrippina, beautiful variegated, $2. Duchess of Kent, striped, $1.50. Highlander, striped with orange, $1.50. Paroquet, variegated, $1.50 Ranunculiflora, purple edged with white, $1. Carlo Dolci, yellow and scarlet, $1.50. Alexander the Great, striped, $2. Earl Grey, striped, $1.50. Antonia, variegated, $1.50. Gender Bicolor, variegated, $1.50. Flamed Yellow, fine variegated, $1.50. Lutea Purpurea, yellow and purple striped, $1.50. Guttata, variegated, $1.50. Nymphæflora, white, spotted with purple, $1.50. Widnall's Conqueror, striped, $1.50. Venusta, striped, $1.25. Maculatum, white striped and spotted, $1.50. Striped China-Aster, flowered, $1. Pencilled White, fine mottled, $1.50. Proteus, variegated changeable, $1.50. Guttata Major, variegated, $2. Picta, orange and red, $1 50. Zebra, orange striped, $1.25. Henrietta, striped, $1 Pavonia, variegated, $1.50. Rosea Alba, rosy and white, $1.50. Metropolitan Stripe, $2. Atropurpurea Speciosa, $1 25. Fringed White, $1.25. Queen of the Whites, $1.25. Harpalycee, white, $1. Errington White, $1. Alba Multiflora, $1. Young's Magnificent, scarlet extra, $2½. Picta, white spotted, $1.50. It may 21

COMPLETE SET OF THE FARMER.

One complete set of 11 Volumes of the New England Farmer, bound in excellent style. For sale at the Farmer Office. This will be found to make a valuable Library for an Agriculturist.

PRICES OF COUNTRY PRODUCE

		FROM	TO
APPLES, russets,	barrel	1 75	2 50
BEANS, white,	bushel	1 37	1 50
BEEF, mess, (new)	barrel	10 50	
Cargo, No. 1	"	7 75	8 00
prime,	"	6 00	6 25
BEESWAX, (American)	pound	18	22
BUTTER, inspected, No. 1, new,	"	10	12
CRANBERRIES,	bushel	2 00	2 50
CHEESE, new milk,	"	8	9
skimmed milk,	"	3½	5
FEATHERS, northern, geese,	"	40	45
southern, geese,	"	35	40
FLAX, American,	pound	8	11
FLAXSEED,	bushel	1 37	1 50
FLOUR, Genesee, cash.	barrel	5 12	5 37
Baltimore, Howard str. new	"	5 25	5 50
Baltimore, wharf,		5 25	5 50
Alexandria,	"	5 37	5 50
GRAIN, Corn, northern yellow,	bushel	72	75
southern yellow,	"	65	67
white,	"	65	66
Rye, (scarce) Northern,	"	65	75
Barley,	"	65	67
Oats, Northern, (prime)	"	33	35
HAY, best English,	ton	20 00	21 00
Eastern screwed,	"	13 00	14 00
Hard pressed,	"	14 00	15 00
HONEY,	gallon	36	46
HOPS, 1st quality	pound	17	19
2d quality	"	12	14
LARD, Boston, 1st sort,	pound	9	10
Southern, 1st sort,	"	7	8½
LEATHER, Slaughter, sole,	"	15	17
" upper,	lb.	10	12
Dry Hide, sole,	pound	15	17
" upper,	lb.	18	20
Philadelphia, sole,	pound	23	25
Baltimore, sole,	"	22	24
LIME, best sort	cask	85	90
PORK, Mass. inspec., extra clear,	barrel	17 00	18 00
Navy, Mess,	"	13 00	14 00
Bone, middlings,	"		
SEEDS, Herd's Grass	bushel	2 37	2 50
Red Top, northern, (scarce)	"	87	90
Red Clover, northern,	pound	7	8
White Dutch Honeysuckle	"	28	33
TALLOW, tried,	cwt	7 00	7 50
WOOL, prime or Saxony Fleeces,	pound	62	68
American, full blood, washed	"	58	62
do. 3-4ths do.	"	48	52
do. 1-2 do.	"	42	47
do. 1-4 and common	"	37	40
Native washed,	"	38	40
Northern pulled: Pulled superfine,	"	53	57
1st Lambs,	"	45	47
2d "	"	37	40
3d "	"	28	30
1st Spinning,		45	48

Southern pulled wool is generally 5 cts. less per lb.

PROVISION MARKET.

RETAIL PRICES.

HAMS, northern,	pound	9	10
southern,	"	8	9
PORK, whole hogs,	"	6½	7
POULTRY,	"	10	15
BUTTER, (tub)	"	12	14
lump, new,	"	20	22
EGGS,	dozen	12	14
POTATOES,	bushel	33	37
CIDER, (according to quality.)	barrel	2 00	3 00

BRIGHTON MARKET.—MONDAY, May 19th, 1834.

Reported for the Daily Advertiser and Patriot.

At Market this day, 216 Beef Cattle, (unsold 12) 12 pairs working Oxen, 15 cows and calves, and 250 sheep.

PRICES. *Beef Cattle*—More than half the beef cattle were bought before they arrived at the market; a large proportion were purchased by the "lump," but at an advance price from last week. We shall quote prices from the best information we can obtain, say one yoke extraordinary fine at 6 88, and one at 6 75; also one yoke, fed by Mr. Shelden, of Deerfield, sold for $195; prime at 6 50 a 6 62; good at 6 12 a 6 50; thin at 5 50 a 6.

Working Oxen—No sales noticed.

Cows and Calves—We noticed sales at 20, 22, 23, 24, 26½, 28, and $30.

Sheep—One lot sheared were taken at 2 75, 3 and 3 50; those not sheared at about 4 50 each.

Swine—None at Market.

HALL'S IMPROVED HAY RAKES.

Just received, and for sale at the Agricultural Warehouse, 50 dozen of the first and second quality of Hall's best warranted Hay Rakes. my 14

MISCELLANY.

From Blackwood's Magazine.

SPRING.

BY THE HONORABLE MRS. NORTON.

THE Spring is come again! the breath of May
Creeps whisperingly where brightest flowers have birth,
And the young sun beams forth with redder ray
On the broad bosom of the teeming earth.
The Spring is come! how gladly Nature wakes
From the dark slumber of the vanished year;
How gladly every gushing streamlet breaks
The summer stillness with its music clear!

But thou art old, my heart! the breath of Spring
No longer swells thee with a rapturous glow,
The wild bird carols blithely on the wing,
But wakes no smile upon my withered brow.
Thou art grown old! no more the generous thought
Sends the warm blood more swiftly through the veins—
Selfish and cold thou shrinkest—Spring has nought
For *thee* but memory of vanished pains.

The day-break brings no bounding for my rest,
Eagerly glad, and strong in soul and limb:
But the weary lid, (unwelcome guest!)
The sunlight struggles with a lustre dim.
The evening brings no calm—the night no sleep,
But feverish tossings on the hateful bed,
While the vexed thoughts their anxious vigils keep,
Yet more to weary out the aching head.

Still the deep grove—the bower—my footsteps seek,
Still do I read beneath the flowery thorn;
And with a worn and hollow eaten cheek,
Woo the young freshness of the laughing morn.
But now no pleasure in the well known lines,
Expands my brow, or sparkles in mine eye,
O'er the dull page my languid beau declines,
And wakes the echo with a listless sigh.

Ah! mocking wind that wandereth o'er my form,
With freshened scents from every opening flower;
Deep—deep within, the never dying worm—
Life's longings all unquenched defy thy power!
There coolness comes not with the cooling breeze—
There music flows not with the gushing rill—
There shadows calm not from the spreading trees—
Unslaked the eternal fever burneth still!

Mock us not, Nature, with thy symbol vain
Of hope succeeding hope through endless years—
Earth's buds may burst—earth's groves be green again,
But man—can man forget youth's bitter tears?
I thirst—I thirst! but duller day by day
Grow the clogged soarings of my spirit's wing:
Faintly the sap of life slow ebbs away,
And the worn heart denies a second spring.

MEDICINAL PROPERTIES OF SALT.

DR. STEVENS, an eminent physician of London, has recently made certain discoveries relating to the diseased and healthy state of the blood, and the agency of salt upon the circulation, which seem likely to produce a great revolution in the treatment of fevers, and malignant diseases in general.

It is well known that the blood of the arteries is of a bright crimson color, while that of the veins which is returning to the heart, after having spent its vivifying influence, is of a dark purple. According to Dr. Stevens, the bright red color, the vitality and the stimulating power of the arterial blood are all dependant on the quantity of salt which enters into its composition; while all the acids and alkalies, and in general all poisons, tend to blacken the blood, to reduce its stimulating powers, and of course to diminish the force of its circulation. The purple color of the venous blood is owing to the carbonic acid it has imbibed. In the lungs, the oxygen of the atmosphere removes this deleterious acid, and the circulating fluid then resumes its bright scarlet appearance.

According to this theory, poisons, and those malignant disorders, such as the marsh fever, yellow fever, &c. which originate from the patient having imbibed febrile poison, are, in their very first stages, accompanied with a blackness and stagnation of the blood, occasioned by the destruction of its saline principle—and to cure the patient this saline principle must be restored.

Take for instance the bite of a rattlesnake. In this case the poison of the serpent's fangs mingles with the circulation, destroys its red color, and its vitality, brings on blackness of the blood, stagnation of its current, convulsions, and death. The unfailing antidote, which experience has taught the Indian to apply, is to scarify the wound to the bottom, and to fill it with salt. This salt is taken into the circulation, restores the redness and vitality of the blood, and the wound soon heals. Malignant fevers, and other malignant disorders, operate in the same way. They begin by destroying the color and vitality of the blood, and reducing it to a black and putrid mass; and says Dr. Stevens, "I have seen patients in the last stages of these disorders recover under the internal use of large doses of common salt and other saline agents, where the cases at first were so hopeless, that their recovery afterwards appeared to be almost a miracle."

The climate fevers of the southern regions and some other fevers, are produced in a different way; a cold climate requires a different constitution from a warm one. In the cold climate, the digestive organs are more vigorous, and the blood is rich, stimulating, and full of salts. The blood in southern climates is of less brilliant color, thinner and less impregnated with saline substances. When the constitution of a northern stranger is suddenly exposed to the influence of a southern climate, nature hastens to produce the necessary change in his circulation, and this change is generally accompanied with an awful disease. While the skin performs its functions of perspiration, there is no danger; but the moment perspiration becomes obstructed from imprudent exposure to the cold night air, or any other reason the fever breaks out. The cause is, that the blood is too stimulating, too full of salts! and the danger is, lest this operation of nature, for reducing it should be carried too far, and the blood so much blackened and weakened, that the patient dies of mere exhaustion. These disorders therefore according to Dr. Stevens, in their first stages require the acid, and in their last stages the saline treatment.

If this theory of Dr. Stevens be true, a great step has been made in the treatment of febrile and malignant disorders; and certainly the universal use of salt as an indispensable article of diet as far back as history carries us, and the craving which even animals both wild and tame, exhibit for it, would tend to prove that this condiment has some universal and essential effect on the bodily constitution.

SAVINGS BANKS

—Were first established by law in England, about the year 1812, on the suggestion of Mr. Bentham, and the influence of Mr. Rose. The plan proposed by the former, was however, but partly adopted. It is stated in a London paper, that the sums now deposited in the Savings Banks throughout Great Britain and Ireland, amount to *sixteen millions* of pounds sterling; and the number of those institutions is said to be five hundred.

Howard's Improved Patent Cast Iron Plough.

FOR SALE at the Agricultural Warehouse 51 & 52 North Market street, a further supply of Howard's Improved Patent Cast Iron Ploughs. The very extensive sale these ploughs met with the past season, and the very general satisfaction they gave to all persons who used them, give them decidedly the preference over all ploughs now in use—a constant supply of them will now be kept for the accommodation of the public, and all orders will be supplied on the same terms as at the manufactory. a 16

For Sale at the Agricultural Warehouse,

—HARDEN'S improved SEED SOWING MACHINE. This is one of the best labor saving machines in use, calculated for sowing small seed. The saving of seed in the use of this implement is more than sufficient to pay the cost of it annually Price $5. ap 16

PRIZE DAHLIAS.

FOR SALE, 200 varieties of the best double Dahlias. This collection of Dahlias obtained the premium awarded by the Mass. Hort. Society the two last years.

Orders left with Messrs. HOVEY & CO. No. 79 & 81 Cornhill, Boston, or C. F. PUTNAM, Salem, will be duly attended to. apr 2

DAMAGED BISHOPS LAWN AND MUSLINS.

ELIAB STONE BREWER, at No. 414 Washington Street, will open for sale this day,

1 Case wet (but not damaged) Bishops Lawn.
1 do. do. do. Book Muslin.

Also, 1 do. Superfine 6-4 Cambric Dimoties, which will be offered by the Piece at 25 per cent. less than cost of importation. m 14

STRAW CARPETING.

ELIAB STONE BREWER, No. 414 Washington street, has received a lot of 106 pieces superior straw carpeting white and fancy checks, 5-4, 6-4, and 7-4 widths, which he will sell by the piece or yard at very low prices. Also, Canton Straw table matts. istf. a 16.

THE NEW ENGLAND FARMER

Is published every Wednesday Evening, at $3 per annum, payable at the end of the year—but those who pay within sixty days from the time of subscribing, are entitled to a deduction of fifty cents.

☞ No paper will be sent to a distance without payment being made in advance.

AGENTS.

New York—G. THORBURN & SONS, 67 Liberty-street.
Albany—WM. THORBURN, 347 Market-street.
Philadelphia—D. & C. LANDRETH, 85 Chesnut-street.
Baltimore—I. I. HITCHCOCK, Publisher of American Farmer.
Cincinnati—S. C. PARKHURST, 23 Lower Market-street.
Flushing, N. Y.—WM. PRINCE & SONS, Prop. Lin. Bot. Gar
Middlebury, Vt.—WIGHT CHAPMAN, Merchant.
Hartford—GOODWIN & Co. Booksellers.
Newburyport—EBENEZER STEDMAN, Bookseller.
Portsmouth, N. H.—J. W. FOSTER, Bookseller.
Augusta, Me.—WILLARD SNELL, Druggist.
Woodstock, Vt.—J. A. PRATT.
Portland, Me.—COLMAN, HOLDEN & Co. Booksellers.
Bangor, Me.—WM. MANN, Druggist.
Halifax, N. S.—P. J. HOLLAND, Esq. Editor of Recorder.
St. Louis—GEO. HOLTON.

Printed for GEO. C. BARRETT by FORD & DAMRELL, who execute every description of *Book and Fancy Printing* in good style, and with promptness. Orders for printing may be left with GEO. C. BARRETT, at the Agricultural Warehouse, No. 52, North Market Street.